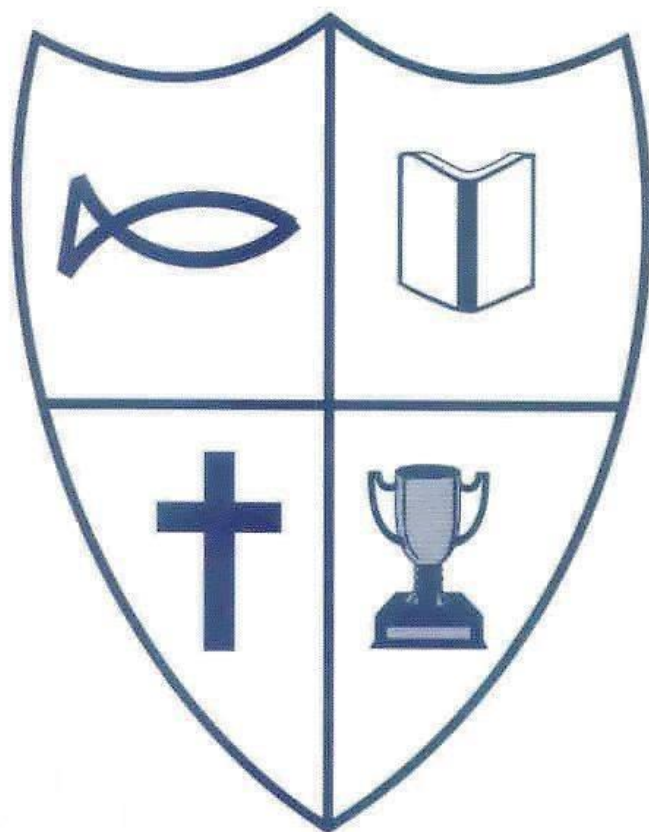


Aughnacloy Primary School



Homework Policy

Definition

At Aughnacloy Primary School we view homework as being a supported or independent task (depending on the child and nature of the task) undertaken outside of curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning.

Purpose

The purpose of homework at Aughnacloy Primary School is to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning and monitor their progress. It enables children to practise and consolidate skills and aims to broaden the context of learning as well provide enrichment and extension. Finally, it aims to enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance.

General Principles:

The principles and philosophy that underpin our work with children are those set out in the 'U.N.Convention on the rights of the child' (UK Agreement, 1991) and enshrined in the Children (NI) Order, 1995 (effective from November 1996).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

[Article 28](#) (right to education)

Every child has the right to an education.

[Article 29](#) (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Why do we have homework?

The main reasons for setting homework are: -

- ✓ To practice, reinforce and consolidate what is learnt in school.
- ✓ To promote study skills.
- ✓ To extend the child's learning from classroom to home.
- ✓ To forge and develop the link between home and school.
- ✓ To encourage and maintain parental involvement.

Written Homework will be given by every teacher Monday - Wednesday. On Thursday night children will concentrate on reading, spellings and tables.

Primary 1 will get their homework for the whole week each Friday, to be returned by the following Friday.

Primary 2-4 will get their homework for the whole week each Friday, to be returned by the following Thursday, or sooner if all completed.

Primary 5 -7 will get their homework for the week each Friday, to be returned by the following Thursday, or sooner if all completed.

How long should pupils spend on homework?

The nature and amount of work to be completed at home will depend on the age and ability of the child. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the progress of their academic development. The following is a guide to the **approximate** length of time pupils should spend on written homework each night.

Primary 1	15 minutes
Primary 2	20 minutes
Primary 3	25 minutes
Primary 4	35 minutes
Primary 5	45 minutes
Primary 6	60 minutes
Primary 7	60 minutes

This does not include reading or learning of spellings and tables. There will be no homework at weekends or during holidays.

Role of the class teacher

- ✓ To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance on how they might assist their child.
- ✓ To set regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- ✓ To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.
- ✓ To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- ✓ To reward and praise children who complete homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- ✓ To mark homework when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

Role of the parents/carers

- ✓ To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- ✓ To support the school by ensuring that his/her child attempts the homework.
- ✓ To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework i.e. at a table in a quiet space.
- ✓ To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities i.e. listening to reading and asking questions about the reading; checking that spellings and tables have been learned and checking written homework to ensure neatness and completion.
- ✓ To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- ✓ To sign the homework when it is completed (this does not mean that the teacher expects the work to be corrected. Signing is seen as an indication that the parent is happy with their child's effort).
- ✓ To provide a written explanation to the class teacher if, for any reason, your child is unable to complete a homework.

At Aughnacloy Primary School we expect parents to support and help their children with homework. Parents are requested to inform the teacher of any difficulties which the child may experience in completing the homework.

Role of the child

- ✓ To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- ✓ To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- ✓ To complete homework with the same level of effort as would be expected in class.
- ✓ To hand the homework in on time.
- ✓ To take on board any feedback.

While we support the role of parents/carers we still expect your child to complete their homework as independently as possible. As children move into Key Stage Two, they are expected to take increasing responsibility themselves for the completion of their homework.

Reading for pleasure

- ✓ The importance of the parent's role in reading books to young children and with young children cannot be emphasized strongly enough.
- ✓ Similarly, it is vitally important that older children who have become independent readers spend time reading books of their own choice.
- ✓ The school's libraries have a good selection of fiction and non-fiction books.
- ✓ The local community libraries should also be visited regularly.

Parents should make every effort to listen to their child read aloud throughout their primary education.

From time to time the teacher's discretion may be used to waive homework.

Homework and ICT

Pupils will be given regular opportunities to complete homework tasks using ICT eg. word processing, producing information through diagrams or graphs or researching information. Provision will be made in school for those pupils who do not have computer access at home.

What should parents do if their child has problems with homework?

- Parents should send the class teacher a message over Class Dojo or it may be preferable to speak to the teacher after school hours.
- Parents should inform the teacher concerned if, on a regular basis their child takes longer than the recommended time to do their homework. The issue can then be addressed in partnership.

Conclusion

Our teaching staff place great value on the benefits of homework and appreciate the help of the parents in supporting their children's learning.

What if homework is not completed?

Each class have signed up to an agreed set of consequences for not completing homework in the allocated time.

March 2022